

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
26 September 2017

Original: English

**Identical notes verbales dated 23 September 2017 from the
Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed
to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council**

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations has the honour to transmit herewith the letter dated 23 September 2017, co-signed by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan and South Sudan, respectively, concerning the situation in the Sudan territory of Abyei which is self-explanatory (see annex).

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Sudan to the United Nations requests the circulation of the present note verbale and its annex as a document of the Security Council.



**Annex to the identical notes verbales dated 23 September 2017
from the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the
Security Council**

Following the actions and measures taken by the Republic of South Sudan and the Republic of the Sudan to enhance and support the mandate of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism, we have the honour to jointly express to you our determination to continue and further our cooperation in implementing Security Council resolutions 1990 (2011) and 2352 (2017).

Thus far, we have made considerable strides in addressing the challenges regarding clearances and access for reconnaissance missions of the Mechanism on our respective sides of the border. Moreover, we have held meetings in Juba, Khartoum, Addis Ababa and New York, and we would like to reconfirm to you our resolve to remove the obstacles and address the challenges facing the operationalization of the Mechanism.

We would like to affirm to you our readiness to uphold the commitments we made in the Agreement on the Border Monitoring Support Mission (2011) and the Agreement on Security Arrangements (2012), and to hold the meetings of the Joint Political and Security Mechanism and the Joint Security Committee, and begin a political process to unlock the deadlock on Abyei and the borders, as urged in Security Council resolution 2352 (2017).

We are confident that you would agree with us that the role of Ethiopia, the sole troop contributor to the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, should be commended and reconfirmed.

You may, as well, agree with us that the need remains urgent, especially under the current political and security situation prevailing in the region; the Security Council and the Secretary-General are earnestly expected and requested to reiterate their acknowledged keenness and preparedness to continue securing Abyei. To this end, we are jointly seeking additional support from the United Nations for the delivery of social services and development activities to the Abyei Area, as a means of engendering peaceful coexistence and cooperation.

(Signed) Deng Alor **Kuol**
Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
of the Republic of South Sudan

(Signed) Ibrahim Ahmed A. **Ghandour**
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of the Sudan